

### **REMARKS**

Claims 17-26, 28-42, 44-53, and 55-56 are pending.

Claims 17, 28, 29, 44, 45, 53, and 56 are amended.

Claims 1-16, 27, 43, and 54 are cancelled.

In the Non-final Office Action mailed on September 20, 2005, the Examiner objected to the claims 27-28, 43-44, 53-54, and 56; rejected claims 1-26, 29-42, 45-52, and 55-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

In this response, specification and claims 17, 28, 29, 44, 45, 53, and 56 are amended and claims 1-16, 27, 43, and 54 are cancelled. For the reasons set forth in detail below, applicant submits that the present application, including each of pending claims 17-26, 28-42, 44-53, 55 and 56 are in condition for allowance.

### **Amendments to the Specification**

While the Examiner has not objected to the specification, the undersigned has hereby amended the "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(s)" section of the specification, starting from page 1 through page 3, and has added the Application Serial Numbers and/or Patent Numbers of the references which were missing from the original application. By these amendments the undersigned has not added any new matter to this application, rather provided required information regarding the references.

### **Objection to Claim 56**

The Examiner objected to claim 56 as erroneously depending from claim 56 instead of claim 45. Claim 56 has been amended to depend from claim 45. Therefore, the undersigned respectfully requests the withdrawal of this objection.

**(Allowable Subject Matter) Objection to Claims 27, 28, 43, 44, 53, and 54**

The Examiner objected to claims 27, 28, 43, 44, 53, and 54 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The undersigned has hereby amended the independent base claims 17, 29, and 45 to add all the limitations of the objected dependent claims 27, 28, 43, 44, 53, and 54; has cancelled claims 27, 43 and 54; and has amended claims 28, 44 and 53. Therefore, the amended independent base claims 17, 29, and 45 are in condition for allowance and accordingly their dependent claims 18-26, 28, 30-42, 44, 46-53, 55 and 56, which include the features of the independent claims 17, 29, and 45 are also in condition for allowance.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 of Claims 1-26, 29-42, 45-52, 55 and 56**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-26, 29-42, 45-52, 55 and 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Horst et al. (US Pat. No. 6,157,967).

The Examiner also rejected independent base claims 1, 17, 29, 45 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hemmady et al. (US Pat. No. 4,872,160).

As mentioned above claims 1-16 are cancelled, which renders the rejections of these claims moot, and independent base claims 17, 29, and 45 are amended to include all the limitations by which they will become allowable. Therefore, the amended independent base claims 17, 29, and 45 and their dependent claims 18-26, 28, 30-42, 44, 46-53, 55 and 56, which include the features of the independent base claims 17, 29, and 45 are in condition for allowance.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, all of the claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance and, therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the

Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-6488.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 030048042US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: 12/15/05

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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